

I'm kind of hesitant to vote for an amendment I'm unclear about and is on Select File at this point. There's still plenty of time in the session left, if this bill, 410, gets on Final Reading, maybe it's the time to bring it back once we get more information from the Transportation Committee. But I'm a little uncomfortable voting for an amendment at this particular point that is not out of committee and there are some charges of cleanup that the committee may not yet even be aware of at this particular point. So, at this point, I'm not going to vote to attach the amendment. But, on the other hand, Senator Schmitt, I'm not saying it's a bad amendment, I just feel uncomfortable supporting it at this time. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. Senator Beutler, further discussion.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Members of the Legislature, I also would just like to express a little bit of discomfort with the process. Here we have what is a bill that's still in committee. And, as you all know, to get a bill out of committee, if it's not advanced by the committee, either takes 25 votes or 30 votes, depending on the situation. But the thing that concerns me most is that I know in our committee oftentimes there are amendments that need to be attached to bills, even though they're good bills. And sometimes those amendments take some time, but sometimes they've very important amendments. And it seems to me that that's the whole meaning of our process, that's why we have bills in committee, so that the committee can get them worked out and straightened out and dealt with, both in terms of the substance of the items and the politics, sometimes. And I know that our process breaks down late in the session, sometimes, and we are putting bills that have come out of committee, we are attaching them to other bills. But this is something a little bit different now, this is something that the committee has not had a final chance to act on. And it just seems to me that this is one step beyond, is unnecessary at particularly this point in time in our process, and just is bad policy not to give a committee the opportunity to do its work on a bill and make a recommendation to us. So, I hope, Senator Schmitt, there's another way of doing this rather than this. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Before we proceed with...I'd like to very quickly introduce some guests of the Legislature today who are under the south balcony. Sandy Stockall, Michelle Hamouz, Annette Schattmann, Melissa Moore,